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hardly to be taken seriously by those who have even a superficial acquaintance with the conditions upon which agriculture is based.

In two respects Professor Carter's book is defective. If he is not scant in his treatment of the oriental religions, he is at least unsympathetic. His characterization of them as superstitions, qualified though it is, leaves something of a false impression. Here again he is following the fashion. But there was another side to these religions, and we are much more inclined to agree with Renan that they had "something deeper in them than those of Greece and Rome; they addressed themselves more fully to the religious sentiment." In spite of their theatrical nature and the abuses with which they are charged, there was something warmly human in them by reason of which they contributed toward making straight the way of Christianity. There is less excuse for the omission of a more intimate account of the private side of Roman religion, for it was this which was after all the real religion of the Roman people. By neglecting these two aspects of the subject, the author has come short of investing his work with the full human interest of which it is capable. It might better be called "Essays on the *State Religion of Ancient Rome*." With all its clearness and excellence of presentation, it leaves the reader cold.

None of these defects, however, is such as seriously to impair the work as a whole; and those who wish a straightforward and useful account of a subject which is somewhat hard to get at will do well to avail themselves of this series of essays.

GRANT SHOWERMAN

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

*An Elementary Greek Grammar for Schools.* Part I: Accidence.

Part II: Syntax. By JOHN THOMPSON. London: John Murray, 1905. Pp. xii + 152, x + 58. 3s.

This new grammar, published in conservative England, is the only elementary Greek grammar in the English language that consistently aims at being up to date. The principles and methods of the new school of philology have been followed in the main. While even the proper pronunciation of ξ, θ, φ, and χ is insisted upon, we are surprised to find the erroneous ρρ laid down as law (p. 4), though the author always writes the correct ρρ. It must have required no little courage in the author to forsake the traditional order of cases in the paradigms and follow the logical sequence N., V., A., G., D. But the usefulness of his paradigms is greatly impaired by misleading divisions which should represent stem and ending, but do not; e. g., *πολιτ-αις*, *μελ-αιναν*, *π-άντες*, *χαρ-έντος*.

The laws of accent and phonetic change are hidden away in appendices. Only rarely is any reference made to them, as if such side-lights might confuse rather than enlighten the elementary student; e. g., *θρίξ* is said to have two stems, *θρίκ-* and *τρίχ-*; deaspiration is not mentioned, save in the appendix; neither is the law of dropping a dental mute before σ; as a result, *φῶς*, *φωτός*, etc., must

be classed, unfortunately, as "mixed stems." The effort to keep within the bounds of a strictly elementary book has generally restrained the author from recognizing *φ* or *λ* in the formation of words or inflection. The result has tended rather to confusion than to clearness in his treatment of stems in *ι* and *υ* and (apparent) diphthongs, and has left a host of "irregularities" unexplained. This shows itself most conspicuously in a long list of "Irregular Verbs," most of which are not in the least irregular.

The Syntax is the weaker portion of the book. Logical explanations of constructions are seldom given. It is mere phenomena of usage that are stated for the pupil to memorize and accept on faith. Those statements, however, have the conspicuous merit, as a rule, of being clear; the pupil will usually know at once what the author means to say. The only serious exception is found in the treatment of conditional sentences. Here Mr. Thompson has clung to the traditional treatment, and the schoolboy will scarcely guess from this grammar that the apodosis of a conditional sentence is an independent construction, but will be led to think that the form of this independent clause is in some way dependent upon the form of the subordinate clause that depends upon it.

Only rarely is a statement misleading, as e. g., when we are told that "impersonal verbs have no subject" (Part II, p. 2), or that *σ* between two vowels is "elided" (pp. 23, 41). Actual errors are rarer still; e. g., "Nouns in *-ινης* are like *πολιτης*" (p. 13); but the vocative is not. "A substantive depending upon another substantive is *always* in the genitive" (Part II, p. 07). The typography is generally accurate, but not attractive. Misprints are few, but they do occur; e. g., *δείραι* for *δείραι* (p. 98), *ἄχω* (p. 23), *σαυρόν* for *σαυρόν* (Part II, p. 56).

W. M.

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*Greek Reader.* Vol. I. Adapted, with English Notes, from von WILAMOWITZ-MOELLENDORFF'S *Griechisches Lesebuch*. By E. C. MARCHANT. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1905. \$0.50.

Mr. Marchant feels it necessary in his preface to insert a foil against criticism of the un-Attic Greek the *Reader* contains; but more than one reader of English publication has been open to the same criticism. We know that Krüger, long ago, spoke a word for Arrian in the preface to his edition of that author. Perhaps on this side of the water we do not so much need the semi-apology for Strabo and others. The *Anabasis* is everywhere used among us, and everywhere teachers feel that a fit substitute would be welcome. Good as this book is, it is not likely to oust our old friend, though it may be made use of here or there in the course.

It contains the well-known skit by Dio Chrysostom, "The Hunters;" Arrian's account of the battle between Alexander and Porus; a scrap of Strabo's description of Great Britain; Hiero's Galleon, by Moschion; and Thucydides' tale of Pausanias, and Themistocles, somewhat modified. This is the best selection that could have been made from the original list. The Gnomes, Maxims, etc.,